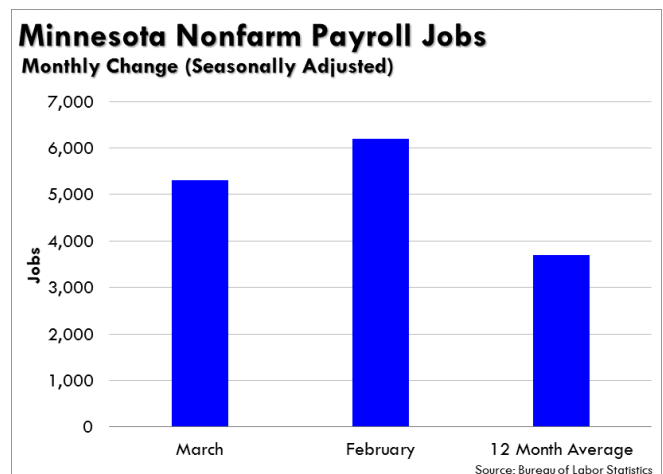
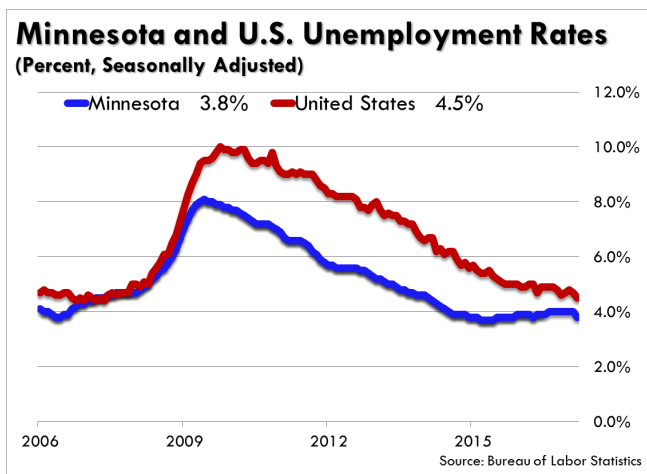


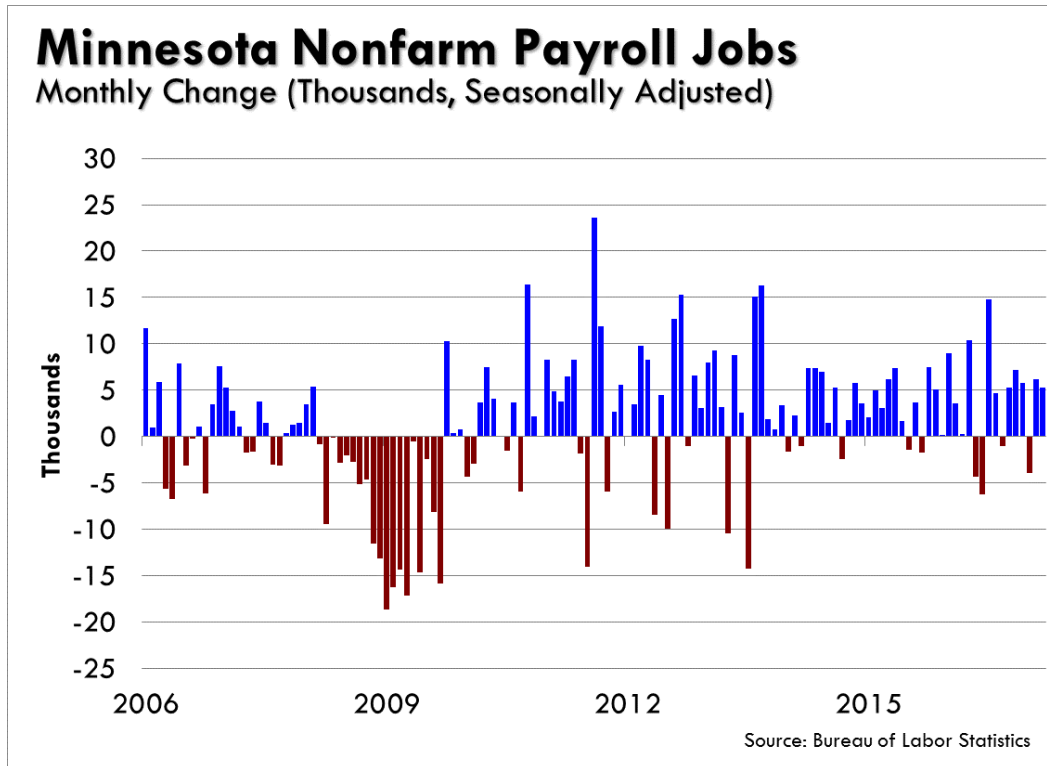


April 23, 2017

Summary

- **Minnesota added 5,300 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 3.8 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Minnesota added 44,300 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point from 3.9 percent.
- **In March, Minnesota's private sector added 5,300 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 42,600 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Minnesotans fell by 4,815 in March**, and over the past year 25,403 Minnesotans found jobs.
- Minnesota's **labor force participation rate remains unchanged** from 69.5 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate is unchanged.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





Minnesota Payroll Employment

Minnesota added 5,300 jobs, or 0.18 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Minnesota added 6,200 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Minnesota increased by 44,300, or 1.54 percent. Minnesota nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Minnesota ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

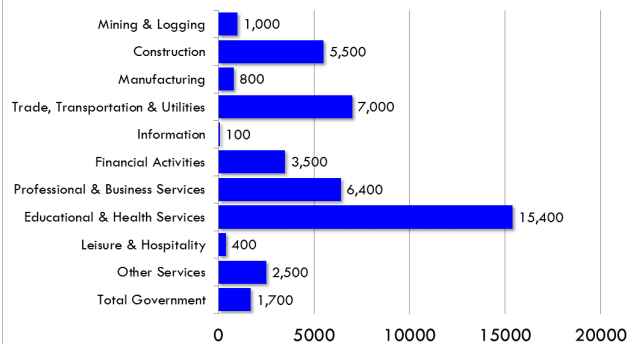
During March, Minnesota's private-sector added 5,300 jobs, or 0.21 percent. The private-sector in Minnesota added 8,600 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Minnesota increased by 42,600, or 1.73 percent. Minnesota private-sector payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Minnesota ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Professional & Business Services (+4,900) and Leisure & Hospitality (+2,500). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-2,500) and Educational & Health Services (-1,400).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Educational & Health Services (+15,400) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+7,000). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Information (+100) and Leisure & Hospitality (+400).

Change in Minnesota Payroll Employment by Sector over Past 12 Months



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, seasonally adjusted.

Minnesota Labor Force Statistics

Labor Force Participation

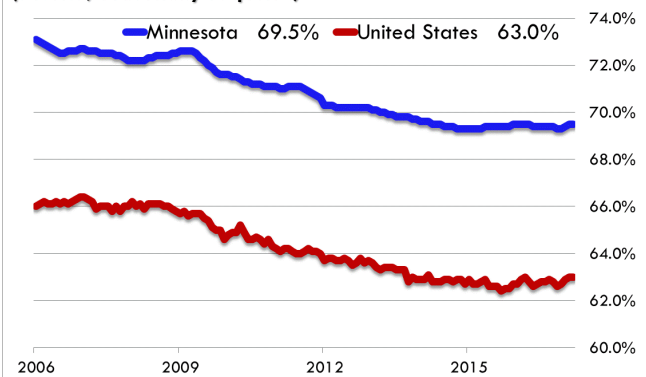
The labor force participation rate in Minnesota was unchanged at 69.5 percent in March. At 69.5 percent, Minnesota has one of the five highest labor force participation rates in the nation. The labor force participation rate in Minnesota is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Minnesota was 72.6 percent in April 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Minnesota occurred in February 2001 when the labor force participation rate hit 75.6 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 69.3 percent in December 2016. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in April 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 65.5 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Minnesota civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 66.9 percent in March from 66.7 percent the prior month. At 66.9 percent, Minnesota has one of the five highest employment-to-population

Minnesota and U.S. Labor Force Participation (Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

ratios in the nation. The employment-to-population ratio in Minnesota is 0.1 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Minnesota was 69.3 percent in May 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Minnesota occurred in April 2000 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 73.1 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 66.0 percent in October 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in March 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 61.4 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

